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INTRODUCED BY Senator **Escutia**
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Kuehl and Villaraigosa)
(Coauthors: Senators Alarcon, Figueroa, Ortiz, Perata, Polanco, Sher, Solis, and Speier)
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DECEMBER 7, 1998

An act to amend Sections 39606, 39660, and 40451 of, to add Section 39617.5 to, to add Part 3 (commencing with Section 900) to Division 1 of, and to add Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 39669.5) to Chapter 3.5 of Part 2 of Division 26 of, the Health and Safety Code, relating to environmental health protection.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 25, **Escutia**. Environmental health protection: children.

(1) Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt ambient air quality standards in consideration of specified factors, including public health effects, as provided, and to specify threshold levels for health effects in listing substances determined to be toxic air contaminants. Existing law requires the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, upon request of the state board, to evaluate the health effects of and prepare recommendations regarding specified substances which may be or are emitted into the ambient air and that may be determined to be toxic air contaminants. Under existing law, the state board's request is required to be in accordance with an agreement that ensures that the office's workload in implementing these provisions will not be increased over that budgeted for the 1991-92 fiscal year, as provided.

This bill would eliminate the requirement for that agreement, and would impose specified requirements on the state board and the office generally relating to the protection of infants and children from environmental health hazards. The bill would require the state board, not later than December 31, 2000, to review all existing health-based ambient air quality standards to determine whether the standards adequately protect the health of the public, including infants and children, and to revise the highest priority air quality standard determined to be inadequate, not later than December 31, 2002. The bill would require the office, by July 1, 2001, to establish a list of up to 5 specified toxic air contaminants that may cause infants and children to be especially susceptible to illness. The bill would require the state board to review and, as appropriate, revise any control measures adopted for those toxic air contaminants, to reduce exposure to those toxic air contaminants, as

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provided.

(2) Existing law requires the South Coast Air Quality Management District to notify all schools in the South Coast Air Basin whenever any federal primary ambient air quality standard is predicted to be exceeded.

This bill would also require the south coast district to notify day care centers in that basin, to the extent feasible and upon request. The bill would create a state-mandated local program by imposing new duties on the south coast district.

(3) The bill would create the Children's Environmental Health Center within the Environmental Protection Agency to, among other things, serve as chief advisor to the Secretary for Environmental Protection and to the Governor on matters within the jurisdiction of the agency relating to environmental health and environmental protection as it relates to children.

(4) This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 40451 of the Health and Safety Code, proposed by SB 1195, to be operative only if SB 1195 and this bill are both chaptered on or before January 1, 2000, and this bill is chaptered last.

(5) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed $1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed $1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Infants and children have a higher ventilation rate than adults relative to their body weight and lung surface area, resulting in a greater dose of pollution delivered to their lungs.

(b) Children have narrower airways than adults. Thus, irritation or inflammation caused by air pollution that would produce only a slight response in an adult can result in a potentially significant obstruction of the airway in a young child.

(c) Children spend significantly more time outdoors, especially in the summer, when ozone air pollution levels are typically highest. National statistics show that children spend an average of 50 percent more time outdoors than adults.

(d) Air pollution is known to exacerbate asthma and be a trigger for asthma attacks in infants and children, 500,000 of whom are afflicted with this chronic lung disease in California.

(e) Infant's and children's developing organs and tissues are more susceptible to damage from some environmental contaminants than are adult organs and tissues.

(f) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act, to require that the state's air quality standards and airborne toxic control measures be reviewed to determine if they adequately protect the health of infants and children, and that these standards and measures be revised if they are determined to be inadequate.

(g) It is also the intent of the Legislature in enacting this act to require the State Air Resources Board and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to consider the health impacts to all populations of children, including special subpopulations of infants and children that comprise a meaningful portion of the

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general population, such as children with asthma, cystic fibrosis, or other respiratory conditions or diseases, in setting or revising standards pursuant to this act.

SEC. 2. Part 3 (commencing with Section 900) is added to Division 1 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

PART 3. CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CENTER

900. There is hereby created the Children's Environmental Health Center within the Environmental Protection Agency. The primary purposes of the center shall include all of the following:

(a) To serve as the chief advisor to the Secretary for Environmental Protection and to the Governor on matters within the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency relating to environmental health and environmental protection as each of those matters relates to children.

(b) To assist the boards, departments, and offices within the Environmental Protection Agency to assess the effectiveness of statutes, regulations, and programs designed to protect children from environmental hazards.

(c) To coordinate within the Environmental Protection Agency and with other state agencies, regulatory efforts, research and data collection, and other programs and services that impact the environmental health of children, and coordinate with appropriate federal agencies conducting related regulatory efforts and research and data collection.

(d) In consultation with the State Air Resources Board and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, to report to the Legislature and the Governor no later than December 31, 2001, on the progress of the state board and the office toward implementing the act that added this part during the 1999-2000 Regular Session and to make recommendations for any statutory or regulatory changes that may be necessary to carry out the intent of that act to protect the public health, including infants and children, from air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

SEC. 3. Section 39606 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

39606. (a) The state board shall do both of the following:

(1) Based upon similar meteorological and geographic conditions and consideration for political boundary lines whenever practicable, divide the state into air basins to fulfill the purposes of this division.

(2) Adopt standards of ambient air quality for each air basin in consideration of the public health, safety, and welfare, including, but not limited to, health, illness, irritation to the senses, aesthetic value, interference with visibility, and effects on the economy. These standards may vary from one air basin to another. Standards relating to health effects shall be based upon the recommendations of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

(b) In its recommendations for submission to the state board pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, to the extent that information is available, shall assess the following:

(1) Exposure patterns, including, but not limited to, patterns determined by relevant data supplied by the state board, among infants and children that are likely to result in disproportionately high exposure to ambient air pollutants in comparison to the general population.

(2) Special susceptibility of infants and children to ambient air pollutants in comparison to the general population.

(3) The effects on infants and children of exposure to ambient air pollutants and other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity.

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(4) The interaction of multiple air pollutants on infants and children, including the interaction between criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

(c) In assessing the factors specified in subdivision (b), the office shall use current principles, practices, and methods used by public health professionals who are experienced practitioners in the field of human health effects assessment. The scientific basis or scientific portion of the method used by the office to assess the factors set forth in subdivision (b) shall be subject to peer review as described in Section 57004 or in a manner consistent with the peer review requirements of Section 57004. Any person may submit any information for consideration by the entity conducting the peer review, which may receive oral testimony.

(d) (1) No later than December 31, 2000, the state board in consultation with the office, shall review all existing health-based ambient air quality standards to determine whether, based on public health, scientific literature, and exposure pattern data, the standards adequately protect the health of the public, including infants and children, with an adequate margin of safety. The state board shall publish a report summarizing these findings.

(2) The state board shall revise the highest priority ambient air quality standard determined to be inadequate to protect infants and children with an adequate margin of safety, based on its report, no later than December 31, 2002. Following the revision of the highest priority standard, the state board shall revise any additional standards determined to be inadequate to protect infants and children with an adequate margin of safety, at the rate of at least one per year. The standards shall be established at levels that adequately protect the health of the public, including infants and children, with an adequate margin of safety.

(e) Nothing in this section shall restrict the authority of the state board to consider additional information in establishing ambient air quality standards or to adopt an ambient air quality standard designed to protect vulnerable populations other than infants and children.

SEC. 4. Section 39617.5 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

39617.5. (a) Not later than January 1, 2003, the state board shall do all of the following:

(1) Evaluate the adequacy of the current monitoring network for its ability to gather the data necessary to determine the exposure of infants and children to air pollutants including criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

(2) Identify areas where the exposure of infants and children to air pollutants is not adequately measured by the current monitoring network.

(3) Recommend changes to improve air pollution monitoring networks and data collection to more accurately reflect the exposure of infants and children to air pollutants.

(b) In carrying out this section, the state board, in cooperation with the districts, shall expand its existing monitoring program in six communities around the state in nonattainment areas, as selected by the state board, to include special monitoring of children's exposure to air pollutants and toxic contaminants. The expanded program shall include placing air pollution monitors near schools, day care centers, and outdoor recreational facilities that are in close proximity to, or downwind from, major industrial sources of air pollutants and toxic air contaminants, including, freeways and major traffic areas. The purpose of the air pollution monitors shall be to conduct sampling of air pollution levels affecting children. Monitoring may include the use of fixed, mobile, and other monitoring devices, as appropriate.

(c) The expanded monitoring program shall include the following:

(1) Monitoring during multiple seasons and at multiple locations

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within each community at schools, day care centers, recreational facilities, and other locations where children spend most of their time.

(2) A combination of upgrading existing fixed monitoring sites, establishing new fixed monitoring sites, and conducting indoor and outdoor sampling and personal exposure measurements in each community to provide the most comprehensive data possible on the levels of children's exposure to air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

(d) Data collected from expanded air quality monitoring activities conducted pursuant to this section may be used for any purpose authorized by law, including, but not limited to, determinations as to whether an area has attained or has not attained the state and national ambient air quality standards, if the monitoring devices from which the data was collected meet the monitoring requirements specified in Section 58.14 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations for special purpose monitors, all other monitoring requirements of Part 58 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and all applicable requirements specified in regulations adopted by the state board.

SEC. 5. Section 39660 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

39660. (a) Upon the request of the state board, the office, in consultation with and with the participation of the state board, shall evaluate the health effects of and prepare recommendations regarding substances, other than pesticides in their pesticidal use, which may be or are emitted into the ambient air of California and that may be determined to be toxic air contaminants.

(b) In conducting this evaluation, the office shall consider all available scientific data, including, but not limited to, relevant data provided by the state board, the State Department of Health Services, the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department of Industrial Relations, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, international and federal health agencies, private industry, academic researchers, and public health and environmental organizations. The evaluation shall be performed using current principles, practices, and methods used by public health professionals who are experienced practitioners in the fields of epidemiology, human health effects assessment, risk assessment, and toxicity.

(c) (1) The evaluation shall assess the availability and quality of data on health effects, including potency, mode of action, and other relevant biological factors, of the substance, and shall, to the extent that information is available, assess all of the following:

(A) Exposure patterns among infants and children that are likely to result in disproportionately high exposure to ambient air pollutants in comparison to the general population.

(B) Special susceptibility of infants and children to ambient air pollutants in comparison to the general population.

(C) The effects on infants and children of exposure to toxic air contaminants and other substances that have a common mechanism of toxicity.

(D) The interaction of multiple air pollutants on infants and children, including the interaction between criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

(2) The evaluation shall also contain an estimate of the levels of exposure that may cause or contribute to adverse health effects. If it can be established that a threshold of adverse health effects exists, the estimate shall include both of the following factors:

(A) The exposure level below which no adverse health effects are anticipated.

(B) An ample margin of safety that accounts for the variable effects that heterogeneous human populations exposed to the substance under evaluation may experience, the uncertainties associated with

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the applicability of the data to human beings, and the completeness and quality of the information available on potential human exposure to the substance. In cases in which there is no threshold of significant adverse health effects, the office shall determine the range of risk to humans resulting from current or anticipated exposure to the substance.

(3) The scientific basis or scientific portion of the method used by the office to assess the factors set forth in this subdivision shall be reviewed in a manner consistent with this chapter by the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants established pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 39670). Any person may submit any information for consideration by the panel, which may receive oral testimony.

(d) The office shall submit its written evaluation and recommendations to the state board within 90 days after receiving the request of the state board pursuant to subdivision (a). The office may, however, petition the state board for an extension of the deadline, not to exceed 30 days, setting forth its statement of the reasons that prevent the office from completing its evaluation and recommendations within 90 days. Upon receipt of a request for extension of, or noncompliance with, the deadline contained in this section, the state board shall immediately transmit to the Assembly Committee on Rules and the Senate Committee on Rules, for transmittal to the appropriate standing, select, or joint committee of the Legislature, a statement of reasons for extension of the deadline, along with copies of the office's statement of reasons that prevent it from completing its evaluation and recommendations in a timely manner.

(e) (1) The state board or a district may request, and any person shall provide, information on any substance that is or may be under evaluation and that is manufactured, distributed, emitted, or used by the person of whom the request is made, in order to carry out its responsibilities pursuant to this chapter. To the extent practical, the state board or a district may collect the information in aggregate form or in any other manner designed to protect trade secrets.

(2) Any person providing information pursuant to this subdivision may, at the time of submission, identify a portion of the information submitted to the state board or a district as a trade secret and shall support the claim of a trade secret, upon the written request of the state board or district board. Subject to Section 1060 of the Evidence Code, information supplied that is a trade secret, as specified in Section 6254.7 of the Government Code, and that is so marked at the time of submission, shall not be released to any member of the public. This section does not prohibit the exchange of properly designated trade secrets between public agencies when those trade secrets are relevant and necessary to the exercise of their jurisdiction if the public agencies exchanging those trade secrets preserve the protections afforded that information by this paragraph.

(3) Any information not identified as a trade secret shall be available to the public unless exempted from disclosure by other provisions of law. The fact that information is claimed to be a trade secret is public information. Upon receipt of a request for the release of information that has been claimed to be a trade secret, the state board or district shall immediately notify the person who submitted the information, and shall determine whether or not the information claimed to be a trade secret is to be released to the public. The state board or district board, as the case may be, shall make its determination within 60 days after receiving the request for disclosure, but not before 30 days following the notification of the person who submitted the information. If the state board or district decides to make the information public, it shall provide the person who submitted the information 10 days'

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notice prior to public disclosure of the information.

(f) The office and the state board shall give priority to the evaluation and regulation of substances based on factors related to the risk of harm to public health, amount or potential amount of emissions, manner of, and exposure to, usage of the substance in California, persistence in the atmosphere, and ambient concentrations in the community. In determining the importance of these factors, the office and the state board shall consider all of the following information, to the extent that it is available:

(1) Research and monitoring data collected by the state board and the districts pursuant to Sections 39607, 39617.5, 39701, and 40715, and by the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to paragraph (2) of subsection (k) of Section 112 of the federal act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7412(k)(2)).

(2) Emissions inventory data reported for substances subject to Part 6 (commencing with Section 44300) and the risk assessments prepared for those substances.

(3) Toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) and Section 6607 of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 13106).

(4) Information on estimated actual exposures to substances based on geographic and demographic data and on data derived from analytical methods that measure the dispersion and concentrations of substances in ambient air.

SEC. 6. Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 39669.5) is added to Chapter 3.5 of Part 2 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

Article 4.5. Special Provisions For Infants And Children

39669.5. The Legislature finds and declares that certain toxic air contaminants may pose risks that cause infants and children to be especially susceptible to illness and that certain actions are necessary to ensure their safety from toxic air contaminants.

(a) By July 1, 2001, the following shall occur:

(1) The office, in consultation with the state board, shall establish a list of up to five toxic air contaminants identified or designated by the state board pursuant to Section 39657 that may cause infants and children to be especially susceptible to illness. In developing the list, the office shall take into account public exposures to toxic air contaminants, whether by themselves or interacting with other toxic air contaminants or criteria pollutants, and the factors listed in subdivision (c) of Section 39660. The office shall submit a report containing the list and its reasons for including the toxic air contaminants on the list to the Scientific Review Panel on Toxic Air Contaminants established pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 39670).

(2) The scientific review panel, in a manner consistent with this chapter, shall review the list of toxic air contaminants submitted by the office pursuant to paragraph (1). As part of the review, any person may submit any information for consideration by the panel, which may receive oral testimony.

(b) (1) Within two years of the establishment of the list required pursuant to subdivision (a), the state board shall review and, as appropriate, revise any control measures adopted for the toxic air contaminants identified on the list, to reduce exposure to those toxic air contaminants pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 39665), to protect public health, and particularly infants and children.

(2) Within three years of the establishment of the list required pursuant to subdivision (a), for up to five of those toxic air contaminants for which no control measures have been previously

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adopted, the state board shall prepare a report on the need for regulations, following the procedure specified in Section 39665. The state board shall adopt within that same three-year timeframe, as appropriate, any new control measures to reduce exposure to those toxic air contaminants pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 39665), to protect public health, particularly infants and children.

(c) Beginning July 1, 2004, the office shall annually evaluate at least 15 toxic air contaminants identified or designated by the state board pursuant to Section 39657, and provide threshold exposure levels and nonthreshold health values, as appropriate, for those toxic air contaminants. The activities required pursuant to this subdivision shall continue until all toxic air contaminants are evaluated. The levels shall be established pursuant to the procedures adopted for health and risk assessments pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 44360, and taking into account the factors listed in subdivision (c) of Section 39660. Based on this evaluation, and after review by the scientific review panel as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the office shall update the list established pursuant to subdivision (a), by July 1, 2005, and each year thereafter. Within three years of the initial or subsequent listing update, for up to five of the toxic air contaminants contained on that list for which no control measures have been previously adopted, or for at least five of the toxic air contaminants if more than five toxic air contaminants have been identified, the state board shall prepare a report on the need for regulation, following the procedure specified in Section 39665. The state board shall adopt within that three-year timeframe, as appropriate, new control measures, pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 39665), to reduce exposure to those toxic air contaminants, to protect public health, and particularly infants and children.

(d) Toxic air contaminants evaluated and listed pursuant to this section shall not include substances in those uses that are not subject to regulation by the state board pursuant to this chapter.

SEC. 7. Section 40451 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

40451. (a) The south coast district shall use the Pollutant Standards Index developed by the Environmental Protection Agency and shall report and forecast pollutant levels daily for dissemination in the print and electronic media.

(b) Using existing communication facilities available to it, the south coast district shall notify all schools and, to the extent feasible and upon request, daycare centers in the South Coast Air Basin whenever any federal primary ambient air quality standard is predicted to be exceeded.

(c) Whenever it becomes available, the south coast district shall disseminate to schools, amateur adult and youth athletic organizations, and all public agencies operating parks and recreational facilities in the south coast district the latest scientific information and evidence regarding the need to restrict exercise and other outdoor activities during periods when federal primary air quality standards are exceeded.

(d) Once every two months and annually, the south coast district shall report on the number of days and locations that federal and state ambient air quality standards were exceeded and the number of days and locations of these occurrences.

SEC. 7.5. Section 40451 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

40451. (a) The south coast district shall use the Pollutant Standards Index developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and shall report and forecast pollutant levels daily for dissemination in the print and electronic media. Commencing July 1, 2001, the south coast district shall also include

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in its report and forecast levels of PM2.5 in excess of the 24-hour federal ambient air standard, as adopted in July 1997, or any standard adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that succeeds that standard.

(b) Using existing communication facilities available to it, the south coast district shall notify all schools and, to the extent feasible and upon request, daycare centers in the South Coast Air Basin whenever any federal primary ambient air quality standard is predicted to be exceeded. Commencing July 1, 2001, using communication facilities available to it, the south coast district shall also notify all schools in the South Coast Air Basin when the ambient level of PM2.5 is predicted to exceed the 24-hour federal ambient air standard, as adopted in July 1997, or any standard adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that succeeds that standard.

(c) Whenever it becomes available, the south coast district shall disseminate to schools, amateur adult and youth athletic organizations, and all public agencies operating parks and recreational facilities in the south coast district the latest scientific information and evidence regarding the need to restrict exercise and other outdoor activities during periods when federal primary air quality standards and the 24-hour federal ambient air standard for PM2.5, as adopted in July 1997, or any standards adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that succeed those standards, are exceeded.

(d) Once every two months and annually, the south coast district shall report on the number of days and locations that federal and state ambient air quality standards were exceeded. Commencing July 1, 2001, the south coast district shall also include in that report the number of days and locations on and at which the 24-hour federal ambient air standard for PM2.5, as adopted in July 1997, or any standard adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that succeeds that standard, is exceeded.

SEC. 8. Section 7.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 40451 of the Health and Safety Code proposed by both this bill and SB 1195. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2000, (2) each bill amends Section 40451 of the Health and Safety Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 1195, in which case Section 7 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 9. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars ($1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims Fund.

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